Critics

JFK assassination records appeals; PA appeals - Robert Kaffke, the FBI and critics of the official solution to the crime

In this I add to my prior appeal relating to Kaffke, Hal Verb and his friends and the SAF and no. 105-3522, a Not Recorded FD-4 routing slip of 6/21/76 with an attached classification change form from Kansas City Legat file 105-3702 and Serial 2345 are attached.

The 1976 notice of declassification appears to be of a record that bore no stamp of classification, a strange procedure.

The FD-4 form has a box for instructions to prepare a tickler. I again raise questions about my not having received any copy of any JFK records tickler.

Since writing you about Kaffke, an apparent FBI source if not an informer - please note Legat's routing to HQ (105A-2273, a file for "security informants" - I have thought a bit more about this man who struck me as a strange one. While Verb had a discussion group interested in the assassination, including some fringe types, a remnant of Lane's earlier "Citizens Committee of Inquiry," for no apparent reason, if my recollection is correct, Kaffke started another one, I think called "the 22 of November Brotherhood." Then he appeared to be without any means this struck me as additionally strange. So did his appearance and what he said.

Although Kaffke's name is withheld from the airtel it is not withheld from the cable-gram.

I do not know whether the other attachments are relevant or not. I know of one possibly related "hoax."

These records leave it without any doubt that regardless of how the FBI refers to Kaffke, as a source or informant, he was providing information relating to those who did not agree with the official solution to the JFK assassination and he was present at a meeting I addressed. No record indicating this has been provided by any FBI source. It is relevant in the JFK case and its relevance to my PA requests, of all FOs, can't be questioned. I therefore again ask for a proper search of all relevant files, including

the San Francisco office and especially political files. These political files should include those on informants, like the noted 134 file, those on Cuban activities, the SWP (I/reminded you again of my appeal relating to San Francisco to which there has been no response) and any on critics, of which there clearly are a number. (The FBI characterized us as dangers to national security.)

I am also reminded of the interception of a group intending to go to Cuba in about 1967 and again on that that led to their interception. I was introduced to one of these people in the San Francisco area and asked him to try to obtain information relating to the JFK assassination. It appears obvious that the interception of this group was made possible by an informer, however styled, and that Ruffin was in a position to do this.

As I remember it I had a major interest in getting a copy of a speech Castro had made about the assassination. I had obtained a partial transcript made from a radio broadcast. Some time later this person appears to have gotten to Cuba and made a request for a copy of the speech for me. I received a printed copy from the Cuban government under conditions that led me to believe that the FBI, particularly in New York, was not unaware of this. In response to my FA request the NY office did not claim to have to withhold any relevant record(s). It did not acknowledge having any.

(Oddly, if my recollection is correct, when I gave this Spanish text to someone to translate into English I never received it back.)

In an earlier appeal also relevant in both cases I provided you with information San Francisco
showing that an FBI symbolled/informant had attempted to interfere with my life and work and had undertaken to hurt my work and reputation. Much time has passed and you have not acted on this appeal.

My initial PA appeal is now three years or more old. I would like to know when I may expect action on it.

For any FOIA exception to be appropriate there must be some law enforcement purpose. If the FBI persists in the fiction that its JFK work was of this nature I would like to know what law was being enforced with regard to critics of the official solution to the crime, including me, of course. Otherwise the exemptions can't be claimed.